

Getting ahead of the curve – the future

Jane Leese

Department of Health

Getting ahead of the curve

A strategy for combating infectious diseases

- ‘These [traditional] control measures have failed to keep pace with changing trends in the disease.....To bring the disease under control will require high level commitment throughout the country and active and rigorous application of known and effective control measures.
- TB one of 5 priority areas for new action plans

Stopping tuberculosis in England

An action plan from the Chief Medical Officer

- Clear goals for the TB programme
- What success will look like
- How this is likely to be achieved

Action 1: Increased awareness

Better information and awareness raising for

- Health professionals
- High risk groups and those who work with them
- Teachers
- Public

Action 2: Strong commitment and leadership

- National
- Local
- Local partnerships
- Local clinical networks
- Leadership from Strategic Health Authorities

Action 3: High quality surveillance

- National systems
- Incidents and outbreaks
- Prisons
- Public health use of molecular laboratory tests
- Monitoring BCG

Action 4: Excellence in clinical care

- Consistency
- Clinical care pathways
- Guidance for patients with complex needs
- Use of preventive chemotherapy
- Part of public health inspection programme of CHAI

Action 5: Well organised and co-ordinated patient services

- National quality standards/best practice models of service delivery
- Patients needs
- Coverage of prisons
- Appropriate isolation facilities and their use
- Operational software

Action 6: First class laboratory services

- Laboratory network
- Clinicians' access
- Requirements for regional and reference services
- Standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Cutting edge

Action 7: Highly effective disease **control** at population level

- Improved case finding
- Role mobile digital radiology
- Health care workers
- Review of BCG immunisation programme
- Contingency planning for unexpected incidents and outbreaks

Action 8: An expert workforce

- Advice on staffing mixes
- Advice on building the skill mix
- Clinic and office space
- Recruitment and retention
- Coverage of TB in professional training

Action 9: Leading edge research

- Use of outcome of treatment data
- Up to date clinical guidelines
- TB research strategy
- National audit of treatment failures and deaths
- Foster academic interest

Action 10:

International partnership

- Common aims for DH and DfID
- Support for well run and sustainable projects abroad
- Support for WHO
- Use of UK expertise
- Two way exchanges

Where next

- For everyone
- Department and HPA can show priority, set some national policies and bring people together, but....
- Everyone in TB must provide leadership within their sphere, challenge current ways of working and be open to change
- Use the document for your own purposes
- Some additional resources for specific work, but must use additional resources already in NHS

